

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

SUB A27

1. A method for organizing and grouping metadata for display, the method comprising:

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selecting a set of fields of metadata;

selecting a property set;

designating at least a portion of the set of fields as related to the property set to create a set of property set fields;

selecting a first display set;

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designating at least a portion of the set of property set fields as related to the first display set to create a set of first display set fields;

selecting a second display set; and

designating at least a portion of the set of property set fields as related to the second display set to create a set of second display set fields.

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2. The method of Claim 1, wherein a property set field may be related to more than one display set.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein a display set may be related to more than one property set field.

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4. The method of Claim 1, wherein selecting a set of fields of metadata includes:

creating new fields of metadata;

using existing fields of metadata; or

creating new fields of metadata and using existing fields of metadata.

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5. The method of Claim 1, wherein selecting a property set includes:

creating a new property set; or

using an existing property set.

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6. The method of Claim 1, wherein selecting a first display set includes:

creating a new display set; or

using an existing display set.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein selecting a second display set includes:

creating a new display set; or

using an existing display set.

8. The method of Claim 1, further comprising storing at least one of the set of fields of metadata, the property set, the set of property set fields, the first display set, the set of first display set fields, the second display grouping, or the set of second display set fields in a database.

5 SUB A37 9. A method for organizing metadata, the method comprising:
creating a property set;
selecting a set of metadata fields related to the property set wherein the
metadata fields correspond to a data type;
creating a set of display groupings; and
10 grouping the selected set of metadata fields into at least one of the
display groupings to form metadata field groupings.

SUB B47 10. The method of Claim 9, further comprising storing the property set, the
set of display groupings, and the metadata field groupings in a database.

SUB A47 11. A method for dynamically displaying a set of metadata field data having
15 specific display relationships on a plurality of platforms, the method comprising:
receiving a property set wherein the property sets includes a set of
display groupings and a set of metadata fields wherein the metadata fields are
related to at least one of the display groupings;
generating a display structure with display grouping structures based at
20 least on the set of display groupings;
populating the display groupings with metadata field structures wherein
the metadata field structures are related to at least one of the metadata fields;
receiving a set of metadata field data related to the set of metadata fields;
populating the metadata field structures with the related metadata field
25 data; and
displaying the display structure.

SUB B47 12. The method of Claim 11, wherein receiving a set of metadata field data
includes:
30 sending a request for metadata field data to a metadata database; and
receiving a set of metadata field data from the metadata database related
to the request.

13. A method for allowing a user to edit metadata using a graphical user interface display on a plurality of platforms, the method comprising:

querying a metadata database for a set of metadata data;

dynamically displaying the set of metadata data in a display window in a graphical user interface wherein the set of metadata data is organized into category sets and display window groups;

receiving a request from a user to alter the displayed metadata data;

processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data; and

updating the display of the metadata data in the display window.

14. The method of Claim 13, wherein processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data includes updating the corresponding metadata data in the metadata database.

15. The method of Claim 13, wherein processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data includes logging the request in a metadata database update log.

16. The method of Claim 13, wherein processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data includes processing the request to alter related metadata data that is not displayed.

SUB A5 17. A metadata editor system for organizing, displaying, and allowing access to metadata from a metadata database on a plurality of platforms, the metadata editor system comprising:

a metadata database configured to store metadata;

a metadata organization database configured to store category and property information about the metadata that signifies relationships with the metadata; and

a graphical user interface display module configured to display subsets of the metadata wherein the subsets of metadata are organized by display groups.

SUB B8 18. The metadata editor system of Claim 17, wherein the metadata editor system further comprises:

a metadata update module configured to receive updates to the metadata from a user, send the updates to the metadata database, and send the updates to the graphical user interface display module.

SUB A6

19. A metadata editor system for organizing, displaying, and allowing access to metadata from a metadata database on a plurality of platform, the metadata editor system comprising:

means for storing metadata;

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means for storing metadata organization data wherein the metadata organization data includes groupings that define subsets of metadata as well as display sets; and

means for displaying subsets of metadata wherein the subsets of metadata are organized by display sets.

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ADD A7